8. has not the Conservator till now stated in the open House that there was no such case reported?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—1. There was no such case.

2 to 8. In view of the reply to (1) above no answer is called for.

287. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. whether there was a case of illicit transport of two teak logs without chappa or passes, detected by the Parakkadavu Tanadar in 1101 and what was the report of the Divisional Forest Officer thereon;

2. who brought down these logs from the Palappalli plantations;

3. what was the explanation of the Plantation Ranger in this matter;

4. was it alleged that personal sanction of the Conservator of Forests was obtained for the same and had the Conservator of Forests given the same;

5. how was the matter finally disposed of by the Conservator of Forests;

6. were not the logs taken by the Ranger and passes subsequently issued to him;

7. was Ranger Mr. C. Govinda Menon constructing his house at Koodapuzha at the time the logs were brought down;

8. on the receipt of the information of the seizure of the timber, did the Forest Guard under the Plantation Ranger produce the passes before the Southern Divisional Forest Officer in Palappalli camp, the next day, bearing the date on which the logs were seized;

9. will the Government be pleased to place the whole file regarding this matter on the Table of the House?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—1. The Member is referred to answer to part (1) of question No. 286.

2 to 9. In view of the answer to (1) above, no reply is necessary.

288. Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. was not there a case of illicit transport of 2 teak logs without chappa or passes detected by the Parakkadavu Tanadar in 1101 and a report submitted by the Divisional Forest Officer in connection with the same to the Conservator of Forests after enquiry;

2. did the enquiry disclose the name of any Forest Officer as having been implicated in the matter, and if so, who is that officer;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

3. how was the matter finally disposed of and to whom were the logs delivered;

4. will the Government be pleased to place the Divisional Forest Officer's report and the Conservator's order on the Table of the House?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—1. The Member is referred to the answer to part (1) of question No. 286.

2, 3 and 4. In view of the answer to (1) above, no reply is necessary.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Was there not a case of illicit transport of teakwood as referred to in the question? Probably there may be some mistake in the logs. There is some distinction made between logs and toplings. In the case of less valuable timber, if they are below six *vannams*, they will be considered as toplings, and in the case of valuable timber, such as teak and rosewood, logs below 14 *vannams* are considered as toplings. I want to know whether this answer is based upon that distinction.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Was there any case of illicit transport of teak at all?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

Maistries, etc., in the Chittur Irrigation System.

289. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(i) the names of maistries and watchmen in the irrigation system in Chittur with the number of years they have been continuously serving the State;

(ii) whether anybody has been dismissed for being over-aged within the last 5 years; if so, their names with age;

(iii) the names of those who have been newly recruited within the last 2 years with their ages?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(i) A list showing the names of the maistries and watchmen now in service is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

It is not possible to give particulars regarding service as service books are not maintained for them, the establishment being temporary.

(ii) No one has been dismissed being over-aged. Maistry E. Sankunni Nayar and Venkiteswara Ayyar were retired as they were infirm, sickly and unfit for work.

(iii) Vide the list appended. (*Appendix II.*)

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was not this E. Sankunni Nayar a Maistry in the Irrigation Department when the Chittur

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly